

Honoring Army Women

USDB Leavenworth

Mission: Horn of Africa

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

Soldiers

August 2005
www.soldiersmagazine.com

New Hope
for Ethiopians

New Hot Topics
on RCI



Cover Story — Page 8
A Guam Army National Guard
Soldier of CJTF-HOA poses
with a group of children in
Hurso, Ethiopia.
— Photo by Heike Hasenauer

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AS the staff was finishing final layouts for August, we were also planning the stories and special issues we hope to bring you in the next few months. Among the articles we're working on is a profile of a "Soldiers' Soldier," someone who has answered the call to duty and was nominated by his or her peers as a person who epitomizes the Army Values. Look for the story in our November issue.

December will bring a change in direction: our first Soldiers calendar. In addition to the traditional photos and format you would expect, the calendar will also have Army-specific events, plus information and resources for Soldiers and family members. January will continue the special issues with our 2006 Almanac, and February will combine Army recruiting initiatives with our annual photo essay, "This Is Our Army."

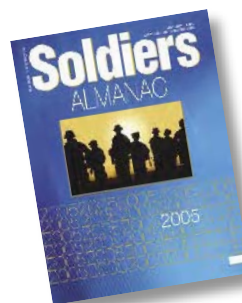
The staff also has been reviewing the results of our survey evaluating the effectiveness of our Internet magazine, Soldiers Online (www.Soldiersmagazine.com), and so far the results are encouraging — 67 percent of respondents say they have recommended the site to friends. We hope you'll visit the site soon, take our survey and maybe even make Soldiers Online your homepage.

As for this issue, Heike Hasenauer reports on the activities of Soldiers supporting the joint mission in the Horn of Africa. We hope you enjoy her enlightening report.

Gil High
Gil High
Editor in Chief

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Letters from the Field

Documenting the 10th

YOUR June article on the film being made about the 10th Mountain Division's World War II battles in Italy brought back many memories. I was a member of the division, and fought through many of the areas depicted in the article.

Because most of our recent wars have been fought in the desert, Soldiers today can't understand what it was like to fight in rugged mountains, in the snow, against an enemy who was unmatched in tactical capability. It was a rough, dirty business, and those of us who experienced it will never forget it.

James Cota
via e-mail

Keeping Them Flying

I WAS happy to read the June article about the aircraft maintainers at Logistics Support Area Anaconda in Iraq. Too often the important work done by the folks who repair and maintain the Army's aircraft — and trucks and tanks and other systems — seems to be forgotten.

Congratulations on a fine article, and I hope to read more about the Soldiers who work "behind the scenes."

SGT Sean O'Reilly
via e-mail

CIB Debate, Continued

THE continuing controversy about the CIB vs. the EIB, sparked by the April letter by CPT Williams, is really starting to frost me.

In my opinion, the bottom line is that the CIB is awarded for actually doing the tough job of combat, while the EIB is a "schoolhouse" award that you get for just simulating the real thing. I've been an infantryman for almost 20 years, and I got my CIB the hard way. I don't know any real infantryman who would prefer to wear the EIB instead of the CIB.

Name withheld by request
via e-mail

Thumbs Up — Good or Bad?

The photo on page 8 of the May article "Making a Difference in Iraq" shows a group of young Iraqi boys gathered around a Texas Army Guard Soldier in Baatah, Iraq. One of the boys is making the "thumbs-up" gesture at the camera, and is smiling.

Maybe I heard wrong, but when I was in Iraq I was told several times that the "thumbs up" sign means something very different to Iraqis than it does to us. To them, it is an obscene gesture, and I think the kid is smiling because he's getting away with dissing us.

SPC Jose Garcia
via e-mail

Weapon Problem

In the May issue you ran a picture on page 13 of some Pennsylvania National Guard Soldiers about to enter a house in an Iraqi town. It sure looks to me as though the second man in the "stick" has his weapon pointed directly at the knee and lower leg of the man in front of him.

It's errors like that that wound and kill Soldiers needlessly.

MSG Michael Smith
via e-mail

Big Guns

AS an artilleryman who's spent most of his time lately playing infantryman, both in Afghanistan and Iraq, the picture on page 19 of the May issue made me feel proud. It's nice to see a picture of Soldiers sending big rounds downrange.

Hooah! Rain of fire!

SSG John Carpenter
via e-mail

Honoring the Fallen

The May article about the various ways the Army remembers and honors Soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan was wonderful.

All Americans owe a huge debt of gratitude to those who have given

their lives in the battle against terrorism. May God bless each and every one of them.

Geri Long
via e-mail

Invisible Wounds

AS a Vietnam veteran who had to deal with years of mental trauma after I got home, I'm glad to see that the Army is taking better care of Soldiers redeploying from combat zones.

Your May article about post-traumatic stress disorder was right on the money about the ways that PTSD can screw up someone's life — believe me, I know from personal experience. I urge all Soldiers returning from a combat deployment to take full advantage of the counseling and support opportunities offered to them, both by the Army and by civilian agencies.

Ignoring the symptoms of PTSD, or refusing to seek help because you're afraid people will think less of you, leads only to pain and suffering for you and those around you.

Andrew S. Kosta Jr.
via e-mail

Battlefield Science

All the high-tech stuff shown in the April article "Science on the Battlefield" was nice, but why can't the Army invent MREs that taste like real food?

Name withheld by request

Soldiers values your opinion

To comment, keep your remarks to under 150 words, include your name, rank and address and send them to:

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Korea

PFC Michael Freise, assigned to 1st Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment, engages a target during a reflex-firing exercise held at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex, Korea.

— Staff Sgt. Suzanne M. Day, USAF



◀ Afghanistan

A Soldier from Company A, 3rd Bn., 116th Infantry Regt., 1st Brigade, 29th Inf. Division, finds a rocket left by insurgents hidden in the mountains near Musayi.

— SPC Harold Fields

▼ Iraq

SSG Russell Cotton advises an Iraqi army platoon leader while on a combat patrol near the village of Tallafa. Cotton is a member of the 75th Div., an Army Reserve unit headquartered in Houston, Texas. Soldiers of the 75th Div. have been serving as part of the Coalition Military Assistance Team, helping train the new Iraqi army.

— MAJ Wayne Marotto



▲ Iraq

A Soldier from Battery C, 2nd Bn., 8th Field Artillery Regt., 1st Bde., 25th Inf. Div., walks with an Iraqi child near Qayyarah.

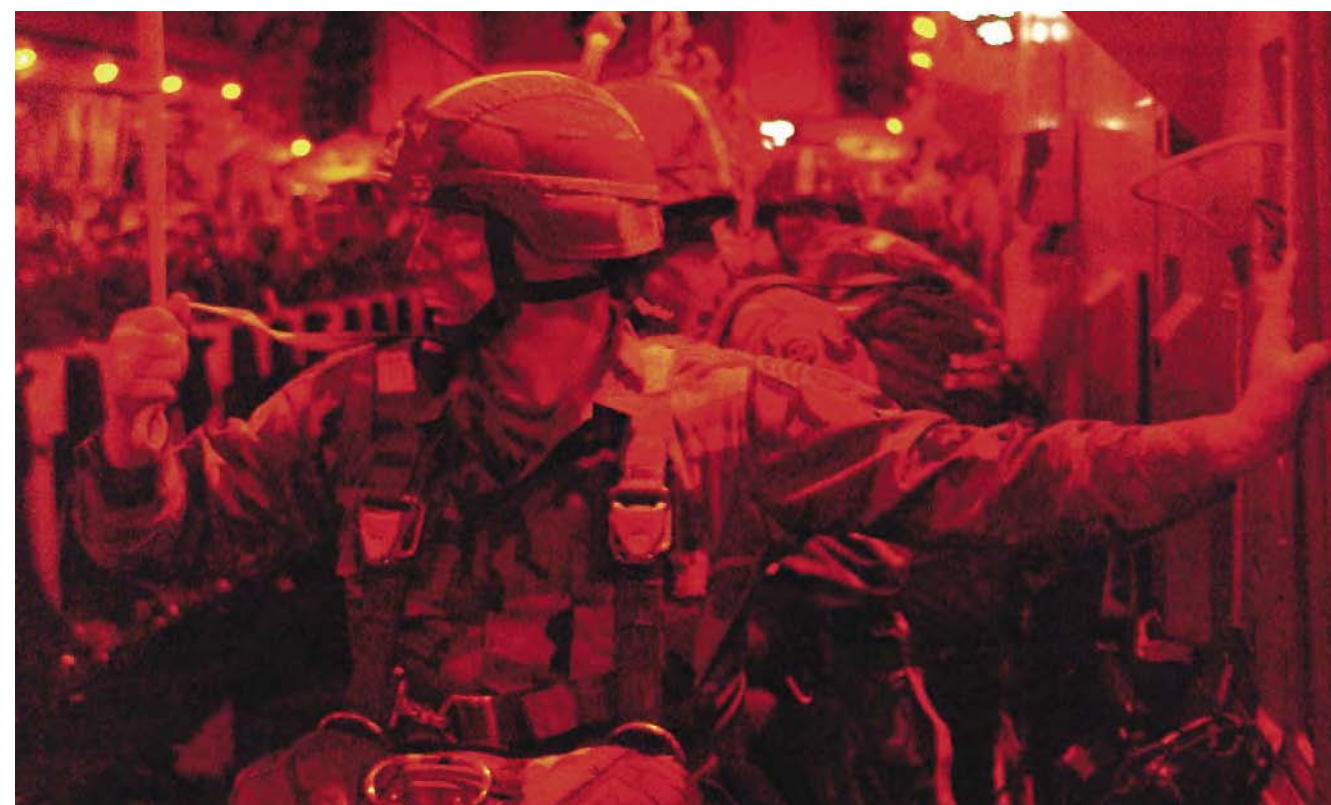
— SPC Jory C. Randall



▲ Iraq

Carpenters from Headquarters and HQs. Co., 20th Engineer Bde., Fort Bragg, N.C., set the frame of a maintenance bay they are building for the company's motor pool at Camp Victory, Iraq.

— SGT Michael J. Carden



▲ Italy

Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Div., Fort Bragg, wait for the command to jump onto drop zone Sicily from a C-17 Globemaster III during a joint forcible entry exercise. JFEX is a joint airdrop exercise designed to enhance service cohesiveness between the Army and Air Force. — Sgt. Andy Dunaway, USAF

FIFTY miles west of Djibouti City, the capital of Africa's Republic of Djibouti, lies one of the hottest places on the planet, and the lowest point in Africa.

At 515 feet below sea level, Lake Assal — at the top of the Great Rift Valley — is said to be the most concentrated body of saline water in the world.

"It's probably the only notable place to see in Djibouti in a day," said Bruno Pardigon, the owner of Agence Dolphine Excursion, a local travel agency in Djibouti City.

"Every other place requires a trip by boat."

Bordering the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea on the east, Djibouti is a country of vast wastelands, where water is like gold and the people depend largely on their livestock for their livelihoods.

Many Soldiers who serve as part of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa say they didn't even know where the country was or why U.S. forces were assigned there until shortly after they arrived. And few had any idea of what the place would be like.



Many are immediately struck by the scorching heat, which they say tops 120 degrees in the summer. Others are taken aback by the region's extreme poverty and some of its more unusual customs, among them the chewing of "qat" or "khat," a leafy green plant that is a mild stimulant.

Khat is such a significant part of life here, in fact, that "Djibouti City has the only prison system where prisoners can check themselves out for khat time and check themselves back in by 5 p.m.," said Chief Petty Officer Darren Runge, a Navy chaplain assistant who helps provide religious services to members of the task force

who live at Camp Lemonier, the task force's base of operations.

The U.S. Task Force

Some 1,600 members of the CJTF-HOA — composed of U.S. service members from all branches, plus coalition staff officers from various African nations, Great Britain, France, South Korea and Romania — live at the camp, a former French Foreign Legion post, said task force commander Marine Maj. Gen. Samuel Helland.

The number includes some 275 employees of Kellogg, Brown and Root, who provide combat-service support to the camp.

About 400 Soldiers — active-duty, Reserve and National Guard — compose the bulk of the force, Helland said.

An important participant in Operation Enduring Freedom, the CJTF-HOA was formed when a group of Marines from the 2nd Marine Division set up headquarters in November 2002 to oversee counterterrorism operations in the Horn of Africa for U.S. Central Command, Helland said.

CJTF-HOA Duties

Today, the combined staff continues its work to counter terrorist operations in the HOA region, which

in the CJTF-HOA mission includes the total airspace and land areas of Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti and Ethiopia in Africa, and Yemen on the Arabian Peninsula, Helland said.

"We're working to create a more stable environment in the host nations and establish trust, confidence and credibility with the people here," Helland said.

It's no mean feat, considering that the HOA-area is roughly 500 percent larger than the land areas of Iraq and Afghanistan combined, CJTF-HOA officials said. And half of its 659 million inhabitants are unemployed.

By working with internal-devel-

MISSION Horn of Africa

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



Guam Army National Guard Soldiers board a Marine CH-53E helicopter for a flight from Djibouti to Ethiopia.



Giraffes and other wildlife are a common sight for CJTF-HOA personnel working in Kenya.



Members of the Kenyan army's ranger unit undergo weapon training supervised by U.S. military personnel.



Not as arid as Yemen and Ethiopia, Kenya offers CJTF-HOA members sights out of a travelogue.



opment organizations and through civil cooperation, the task force has drilled wells and fixed roads, bridges, schools and hospitals. “We’ve even repaired mosques,” Helland said.

U.S. forces also visit orphanages in Djibouti to foster friendships with caregivers and children. At the same time, the service members fill voids left from leaving their own children thousands of miles away in America.

Civil-affairs teams travel from Camp Lemonier to villages across the region to assess the needs of the local populations and pave the way for visits by U.S. engineers and military medical and veterinary teams.

◀ Local women provide a dash of color to the otherwise drab landscape just outside Camp Lemonier, the main CJTF-HOA camp in Djibouti.

▲ 1LT Joseph Cruz, a Guam National Guard member of the CJTF-HOA, looks on as an Ethiopian officer leads a training course for his soldiers.

CPT Rebecca Farrell, deputy staff judge advocate for the CJTF-HOA, advises commanders on the types of funds they can use to perform certain missions and whether a particular project meets the criteria for a humanitarian-aid project, she said.

While engineers drill wells to provide clean drinking water in a region where most of the available water is contaminated, the medical-veterinary teams provide much-needed medicines and vaccinations, both for people and animals.

Still other Soldiers conduct invaluable military-to-military training, which includes counterterrorism training, Helland said.

The task force is contributing to regional stability by training host-nation armies to better protect their borders and coastal areas against potential terrorists, and by providing medical and veterinary care to villages throughout

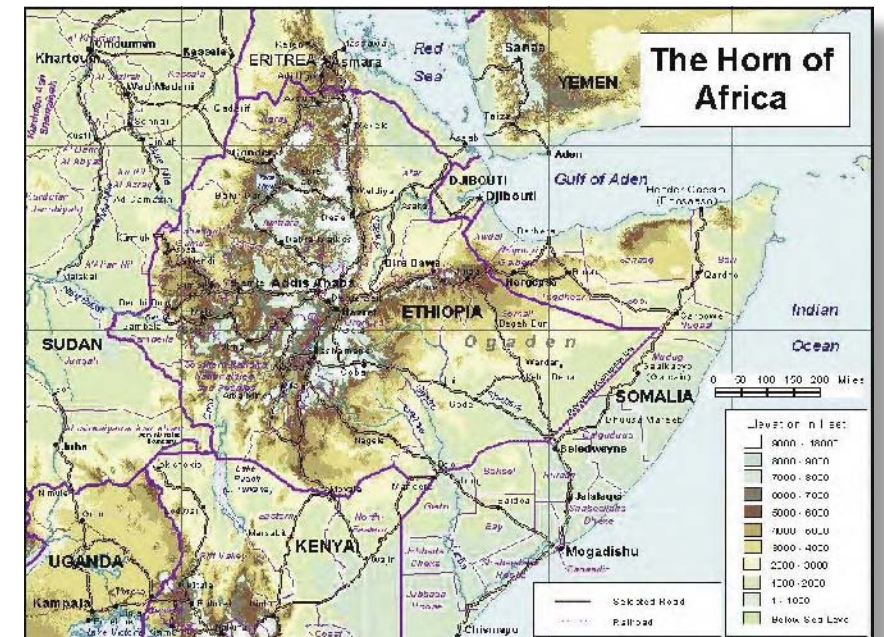
the HOA, said LTC Chris Burns, a special operations plans officer and a member of the Rhode Island National Guard.

In the military-to-military training, “Soldiers from the Army’s 3rd and 5th Special Operations Groups — and Navy and Air Force special-operations personnel — work within the CJTF-HOA area to train host-nation armies to deter, detect and destroy al Qaeda factions,” Burns said.

Small cells of Soldiers also train Yemeni troops. “We put trainers out in the different countries to conduct border, counterterrorism and maritime-operations training,” he said. “We’re doing a lot of deterrent work in Kenya with maritime operations, forcing terrorists to find other routes to reach their destinations.

“Our mission is to help the countries stand on their own two feet, be able to sustain themselves, and have a base to work from once we reduce our footprint,” Burns said.

In America’s last major push in the war on terrorism, “we’re the scene-setters,” Burns said. “We’re here to allow the host nations to be successful



at purging terrorists from their lands and preventing the spread of terrorism across the African continent.”

Some \$5 million has been allocated over the next two years for construction work alone, said LTC Leonard Manning, a Reservist from the Charlotte, N.C.-based 108th Division and an engineer at Camp Lemonier’s Office of the Director of Logistics.

“Most of the projects, including renovation of clinics and the construction of latrine facilities, wells and bridges, will be in Kenya,” Manning said.

Why Africa?

To understand the significance of the CJTF-HOA’s mission, you have to know something about Africa’s geography, economics and the internal unrest within individual nations, coupled with terrorist activities that have plagued the continent over the past decade, Burns said.

Evidence of an impoverished Djibouti, as an example, can clearly be

◀ Young men in a Yemeni marketplace chew khat, a leafy green plant that is a mild stimulant. The habit is common throughout East Africa and Yemen.

seen right outside the fortified Camp Lemonier.

“It’s an area of shanty towns,” said SGM Mark Currier, from the Army Reserve’s 78th Div. in Newport, R.I.

Outside Camp Lemonier, in the village of Dela-Douda, it’s impossible to distinguish where the city’s official dumping ground begins and ends, because the barren desert is trash-strewn as far as the eye can see. Even the squat, leafless trees are cluttered with discarded blue and white plastic bags that flutter in the breeze.

Children walk barefoot among the debris and goat and camel droppings, and families live in makeshift huts fashioned from whatever materials they can find. One family lives in the fuselage of an old Russian MiG-21 fighter plane.

On a broader geographic scale, the Horn of Africa is home to Somalia, where in 1993 Army pilots — remembered in the Hollywood film “Black Hawk Down” — were among 18 Soldiers killed by militants in Mogadishu.

“Pockets of extremist organizations and terrorist organizations are located throughout the Horn of Africa,” said Helland. “Among them is the Lord’s Resistance Army, which uses

Mission: Horn of Africa





Ethiopian infantrymen wait for the start of a training class in Hurso. Much of the training syllabus was developed by Soldiers of the Guam National Guard, who are based in the town.



▲ Beyond the border's of Yemen's capital, Sana'a, the country is essentially unpoliced, with each village controlled by a local warlord.

the border of Sudan and Uganda for its operations." The organization uses the premise of Christianity as a means to gain the trust of villagers throughout the region. Its members have raided and destroyed villages and taken fe-

male villagers to unknown locations.

Known terrorist cells operate in other areas of Africa and include al Itihad al Islamiya, which operates in Ethiopia and has links to al Qaeda, Helland said, and in Kenya and Tanzania, where the U.S. embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam were both bombed in 1998, killing more than 200 people and injuring some 4,000. "And we know an al Qaeda network uses

Somalia as a safe haven for its recruiting and logistics operations."

In the northwestern part of the continent lies Sudan, site of the terrorist training camp of Osama bin Laden that's said to draw would-be terrorists from Somalia. Bordering it is Rwanda, where over the course of 13 weeks in 1994 some 800,000 Tutsis were massacred by Rwandan-army death squads.

Consider, too, that Yemen and Saudi Arabia are just across the Gulf of Aden, and that the two countries are considered to be the two top producers of "foot soldiers for terrorism," according to a recent African Security Review article by Dr. Jakkie Cilliers.

October 2000 was marred by the terrorist bombing in Yemen of the USS *Cole* off the east coast of Africa, which claimed the lives of 17 Sailors. And in November 2002, al Qaeda-backed terrorists bombed a hotel and attempted to shoot down an Israeli airliner with a shoulder-fired missile near Mombasa,



▲ A Yemeni veterinary student prepares to vaccinate a cow during a CJTF-HOA-sponsored humanitarian-assistance visit to a village deep in the mountains of Yemen's Dhamar region.

Mission: Horn of Africa





▲ COL Edwin Anderson, CJTF-HOA's operations officer, joins students at the reopening of a school in Jijiga, Ethiopia, that was renovated with the help of Army civil-affairs teams.

Kenya, a U.S. Institute of Peace report indicated.

A Susceptible Population

Because most of Africa's 250 million Muslims live in poverty, many are at the mercy of corrupt governments,

according to information published in the U.S. Army Professional Writing Collection of January 2005, "Creating an Effective African Standby Force," by Marine Lt. Col. Mike Denning.

Additionally, entire regions of Africa are being devastated by AIDS, which has affected as much as 80 percent of Zimbabwe's army, according to Claire Bisseret's article "Africa's Military Time Bomb" in the Johannesburg Financial Mail.

In the Horn of Africa alone some 26 million people are HIV positive, according to a report by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Accomplishments to Date

From September 2003 through March of this year, "we've trained some 1,000 soldiers, many of them in highly specialized units," Burns said. "We train the best soldiers — the core — who will sustain their units. And, because we're here, we can recommend certain soldiers from the African nations to attend U.S. military schools."

The CJTF-HOA has also renovated 33 schools, eight clinics and five hospitals; dug 11 wells; and conducted nearly 40 medical and veterinary visits, said COL Edwin Anderson, operations officer for the Combined Joint Operations Center.

SFC George Nelson of the 88th Regional Readiness Command's 322nd Engr. Detachment, from Cincinnati,

◀ The vast distances encompassed by CJTF-HOA's area of responsibility, combined with the shortage of roads, make helicopters the primary means of long-distance travel for task-force members.



► MSG Brian Swindler of Company F, 96th Civil Affairs Battalion (in civilian clothes for security purposes) takes part in a medical civic-action program in Yemen's Dhamar region.

Ohio, said his unit had dug six wells in Djibouti and three in Ethiopia over a one-year period.

"There are plenty of hand-dug wells, 15-30-feet deep," Nelson said. "But the pump wells we dig, which are 250-feet deep and sealed, are much more sanitary."

With a hand-dug well, anything that's thrown into it or falls into it stays in the well, he said. And the well water provides only seasonal water — what's available after rain falls. Digging to the aquifer — beneath permeable rock or sand — provides a longer-lasting water supply, Nelson said.

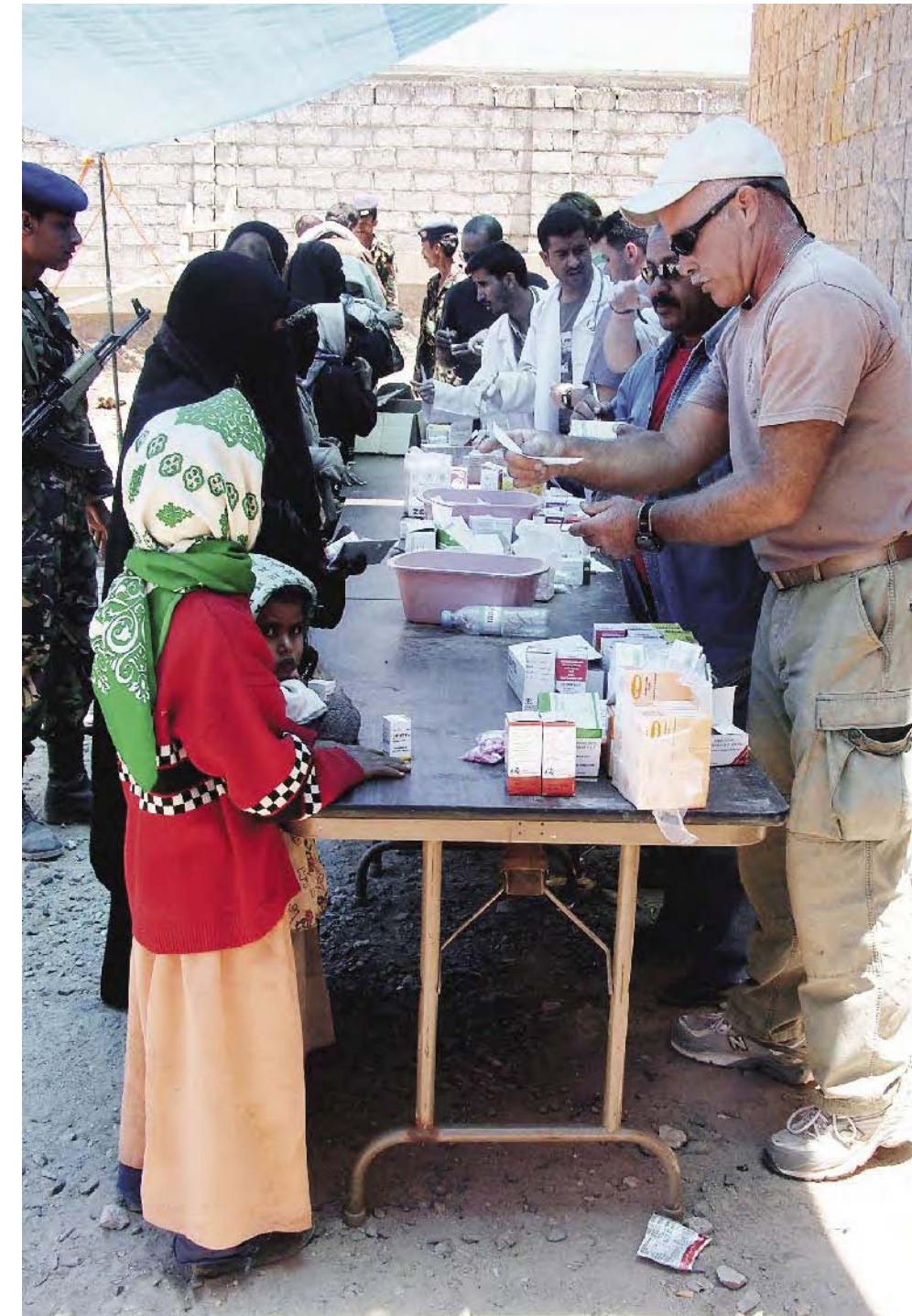
Mission in Yemen

The remote villages deep inside Yemen, beyond the capital city of Sana'a, can only be described as "wild."

Men wearing "futas," better known by the Americans of the CJTF-HOA as "manshirts," with curved knives called "jambias" dangling ominously from their waist sashes, patrol the streets and mountainsides.

On the day of Soldiers' visit a convoy of SUVs — transporting U.S. military and embassy personnel — and Yemeni security forces' gun trucks sped over the dusty flat trails that lead from Sana'a to a remote mountain village in Yemen's Dhamar Region, where, for the first time, a U.S. joint-military veterinary-medical team was to dispense drugs to the local villagers and vaccinate their animals.

That mission, which involved Soldiers from the Fort Bragg, N.C.-based 96th CA Bn., was not without delays, due to security concerns. And members of the CJTF who were scheduled to attend the event had been turned back to the capital city by the village chief, who argued that their names were not



on a pre-approved list of individuals granted access to the region.

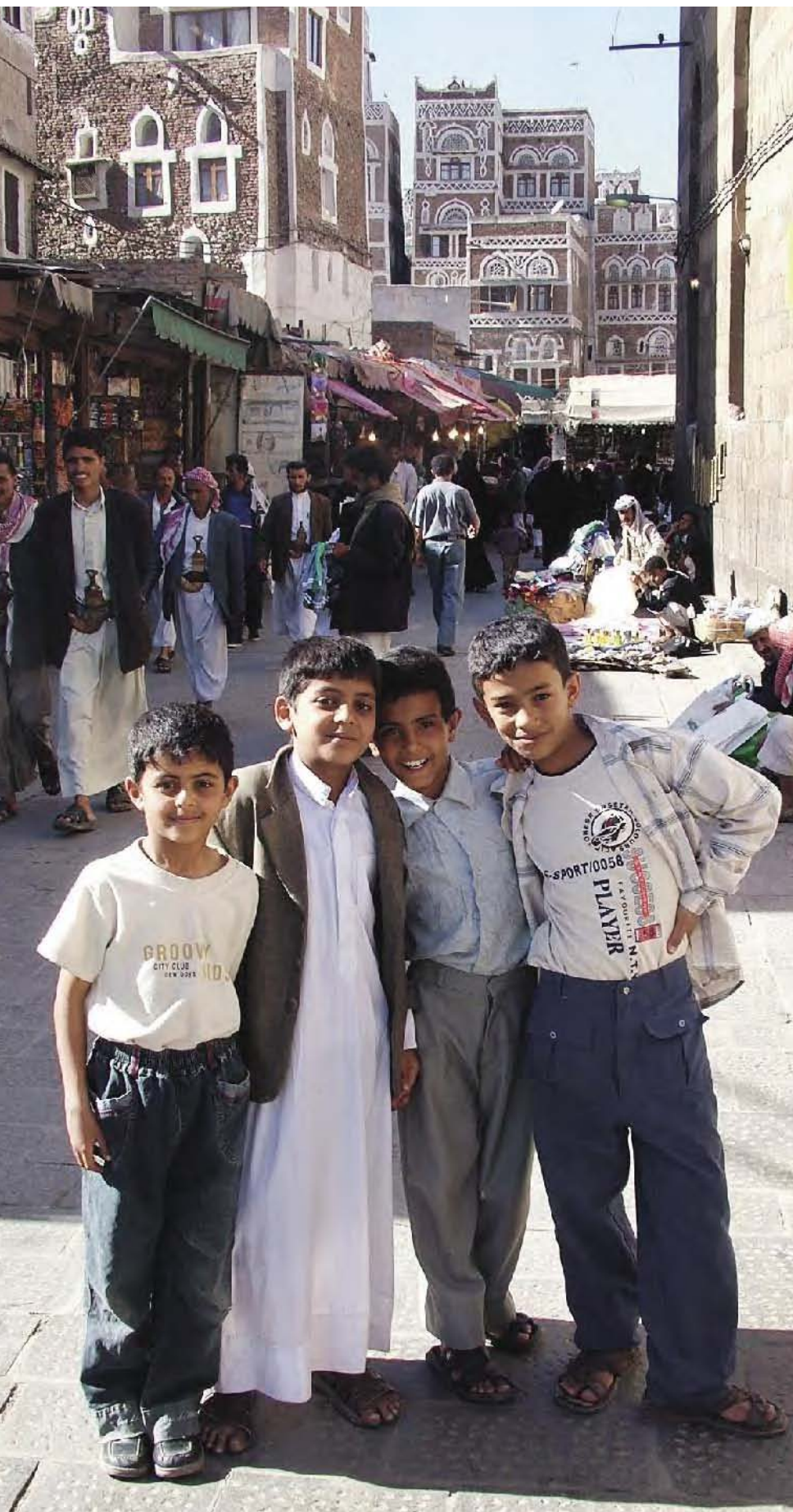
Two days later, those individuals were among visitors to the site, as part of a six-vehicle convoy that included the U.S. ambassador to Yemen, Thomas C. Krajeski. Yemeni security troops in gun trucks escorted the convoy.

Krajeski met with the governor of the region, as well as with the area's deputy minister of agriculture and others.

That the mission took place at all was due largely to country-desk officers at Camp Lemonnier's Combined Joint Operations Center, who had in

Mission: Horn of Africa





coordinated closely with officials at the U.S. embassy in Yemen and host-nation officials, Anderson said.

“Certainly there are going to be logistical problems the first time you do something like this,” Krajewski said. “Next time it will go more smoothly and we’ll be able to get information out to the people in the region. We want to keep bureaucracy to a minimum and help more and more people.

“The veterinary-medical exercise is a demonstration of how we like to do hands-on, practical work in Yemen,” he added.

Over three days the U.S. team reported providing vitamins and other medications to some 4,000 people and vaccinating an estimated 25,000 animals in five villages, said MAJ Mark Ehinger, who served as the Yemen mission commander.

The Challenges in Africa

“Among the challenges of working in Africa are the climate — temperatures reach upwards of 160 degrees in July and August — and the logistics concerns of getting supplies to remote areas,” Nelson said. “At one well site, we had to create a road as we went in.”

Force protection is key. “Considering we can ride 15 miles outside the post and be in Somalia, we know Somali insurgents can drive here fast, too,” said SFC Jimmy Daniel, who’s responsible for storing and managing all of Camp Lemonnier’s basic-load ammunition and establishing accounts for individual military units.

“Depending on where we go in the Horn of Africa, our Soldiers are armed the same as they are when they roll out in Iraq,” Daniel said. “When they go into Yemen, for example, they go with

◀ Children who live near the old marketplace in Sana’a gladly pose for pictures and greet Westerners, even though Western tourists are an uncommon sight in the region.

▶ U.S. Ambassador to Yemen Thomas C. Krajeski talks with local people during the first-ever U.S. military medical-veterinary mission to Yemen.

M-16 rifles, or at least pistols.”

“Working in as many as nine countries is also challenging,” Burns added. “We deal with various languages, cultures and efficiency levels of armies. In different countries, there’s a different regard for the military of that country, as well as its relation to the U.S. military.”

The fact that some African countries have ill-equipped armies is something members of the CJTF-HOA can change, Burns said, although not directly. “The Department of State works with the host nation, which requests certain equipment based on our recommendations.”

Equipment issues aside, members of the CJTF-HOA also deal with the challenges of varying terrain, from desert to jungle to mountains and ocean. And there are various religions and tribal cultures to consider. In Ethiopia alone, there are 100 different tribes.

“We must rely heavily on military air support to get personnel, equipment and supplies from country to country,” said Manning, “because there are few decent roads in any of the countries in the Horn of Africa.”

The bottom line is that “freedom is one generation away,” Helland said of the current situation in the Horn of Africa. “The best thing we can do for these people is to show them that somebody cares about them and is willing to help them help themselves.

“A terrorist organization’s greatest fear is of being surrounded,” Helland said. “And to date, the host nations, with the help of the CJTF-HOA, have done a very good job of disrupting the terrorists’ activities.”

▶ U.S. military personnel operating in Yemen are escorted by members of the country’s security forces, who are seen here manning a truck-mounted machine gun.



Mission: Horn of Africa





SOLDIERS who live at Camp Lemonnier, the former French Foreign Legion post near Djibouti City, may live in austere conditions at remote forward-operating bases, but on the camp they enjoy many of the luxuries of the Western world.

Soldiers live in climate-controlled tents, considerably divided into

one-person cubicles for privacy, and complete with carpeting.

Picnic tables and chairs, and sun umbrellas, surround the entrances to some of them — as do potted plants. Flushable toilets are located in trailers and shower stalls are available in tents.

The dining facility serves three hot meals a day, each with a variety of entrees, sandwiches and desserts.

Religious Services

The camp's small chapel accommodates some 100 churchgoers, said Navy Chaplain (Capt.) Richard Pusateri.

"Everything that's offered at the camp is a mix of every service," Pusateri said. "The Army, for example, doesn't currently have a chaplain at the camp, because the senior Army

chaplains are all in Iraq.

"We offer religious programs every night of the week," Pusateri added. "Many of them are provided by service members who come in and lead Bible studies or the gospel choir. One Soldier with a theological education is leading a study on the book of Exodus."

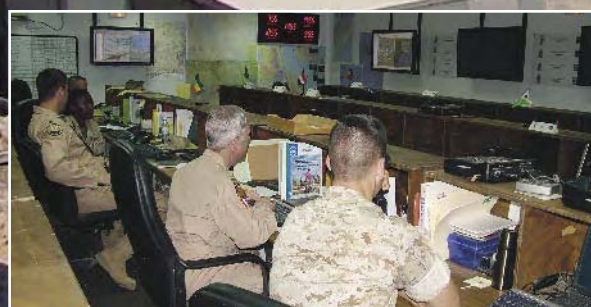
The chaplains also coordinate

visits to three local orphanages several times weekly, and all service members are eligible to participate on a first-come basis.

An orphanage that houses some 40 infants is operated by Franciscan nuns and far exceeds the standard orphanages in Djibouti that are government funded, Pusateri said. "We go there to help feed the babies and just give them

Living at Camp Lemonnier

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



Camp Lemonnier is home to CJTF-HOA's combined joint operations center, which is manned 24 hours a day.



The camp's two MWR facilities offer reading materials, nightly movies, and VHS tapes and DVDs for rental.



Camp Lemonnier's "main street" is flanked by the gym (right), post exchange and other shops and offices.



A newly renovated swimming pool — covered by a sun shade — opened at Camp Lemonnier in April.



◀ An ultra-modern exercise facility helps CJTF-HOA personnel stay in shape while staying out of the heat.

some of the attention they need.”

The other two orphanages are Muslim-run and care for older children, one for boys, the other for girls. “We play soccer with the kids, teach them English, or sing with them,” Pusateri said.

“We also give the orphanages clothing, school supplies, bedding and other items donated by families back home,” he said.

The CJTF-HOA’s commander supports the orphanage visits “because he knows everyone can’t participate in a mission to Kenya or Yemen,” Pusateri said. “But everyone can go to an orphanage. It makes the service members

▼ SSG Eric Johnson of the Mannheim, Germany-based 95th MP Bn. conducts a security sweep in the dining facility.



► U.S. service members feed babies at the Missionaries of Our Lady orphanage in Djibouti City.



feel that they’re contributing to the mission, and they get to experience a whole other side of the U.S. military.”

Relaxation

Morale, welfare and recreation facilities are available at two locations at the camp. Soldiers can watch large-screen TV, check out the nightly movie and enjoy fresh popcorn, borrow VHS tapes, DVDs and books, play pool and video games, access the Internet and make long-distance phone calls.

The camp boasts a small post exchange that sells toiletries, clothing, food items and electronics. There are also a gift shop and tailor shop.

A swimming pool opened in April, when the temperature had already reached 90 degrees by 9 a.m.

Soldiers can work out at a fully-equipped gym, play basketball or soccer outdoors, or make the one-hour trek from camp to the edge of the Gulf of Aden, via a trail through the desert.



After dark, an outdoor club offers ice-cold beer, live entertainment and dancing. And Soldiers are granted passes to visit Djibouti City, to check out the restaurants there.

Mail Distributors and Dog Handlers

Few things are as important to Soldiers as mail from home, and SFC Daniel Reese is part of a three-person staff from the 494th Postal Company responsible for sorting some 4,000 to 6,000 pounds of mail weekly.

“Soldiers here fall under U.S. Marine Central Command,” said Reese. “But we handle all the mail, and we’re loved here.”

SSG Eric Johnson, from the 95th Military Police Battalion in Mannheim, Germany, is among another group of Soldiers at the camp who are highly regarded; they’re the dog handlers who conduct searches through the dining facility and other areas of the camp for explosives and other contraband.

“We’re also a visual deterrent for the Djiboutians who work at the camp,” Johnson said. “We conduct se-

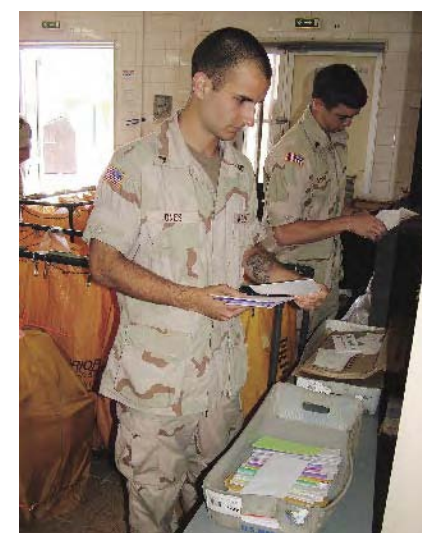
◀ SPC Chris Bond of the Belgium-based 230th MP Co. works his security dog, Blackie.

► Soldiers of the Army Reserve’s 494th Postal Co. distribute 4,000 to 6,000 pounds of mail each week.

curity sweeps of the camp and perform vehicle checks.”

Occasionally, too, the dog handlers assist in port operations, search baggage and mail at the airport, and assist with security operations at the U.S. embassy.

Security is tight, workdays are long and it’s hotter than a steam bath most days, Soldiers at the camp say. They also know they’re lucky to have so much — air-conditioning, an abundance of free water, plenty of good food, clean living and working areas and opportunities for self-expression and self-improvement. 🇺🇸



New Hope for Ethiopians

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

AS TASK force chief of staff Marine Col. Craig Huddleston and chief of operations COL Edwin Anderson exited the CH-53E Marine helicopter on a makeshift dirt landing strip outside the village of Jijiga, Ethiopia, Ethiopian police, dressed in blue suits and riding motorcycles, sped up to escort the white vans that transported the visitors to the village's hospital.

Inside the van, Arabic music played and red curtains with gold pompoms fluttered before the van's windows, keeping curious onlookers at bay.

As part of its mission to visit specific geographic areas of the country and recommend improvements to schools, hospitals and other facilities, an Army Reserve civil-affairs team from the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion had recommended upgrades to the village's Karamara Hospital.

Anderson and Huddleston were among a group of joint-service guests from the Djibouti, Africa-based Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa being honored at a dedication ceremony of the newly renovated facility.

Young women, among them hospital medical assistants in colorful sarongs, offered the guests small yellow cakes and bottled drinks as the U.S. and Ethiopian officials exchanged

greetings and pledges for the future.

"This hospital is a wonderful symbol of the relationship between the people of Ethiopia and America," Abdi Jabril Abubakar, president of the Somali Regional State, where the hospital is located, told guests, through an interpreter.

Huddleston replied: "It's important that we continue to strengthen the relationship between America and Ethiopia. It's our pleasure to be here, and we look forward to a long relationship."

The 208-bed hospital — a far cry even from a standard U.S. clinic — stood dilapidated after 44 years of use and no renovations, said hospital director Dr. Taha Hussein.

Forty-four years ago 10,000 people lived in the village, Abubakar said. "Now 150,000 people come here and receive care, and it's free."

"We can perform X-rays, ultrasound exams and EKGs, and both major and minor surgeries," Hussein said. "And now we have fans in the patient's rooms, and there are windows."

The outside of the hospital received bright yellow siding and paved walkways that help keep desert dust outside the facility.

In the village with the highest malaria rate and second highest HIV-infection rate in Ethiopia, according



▲ The renovated hospital is staffed by both volunteer caregivers and medical professionals such as these two young nurses.

to Hussein, patients will now be better protected from outdoor elements and infection.

Besides providing treatment for malaria, the hospital's staff treats tuberculosis, parasites and malnutrition. Soon they'll have the necessary drugs to treat AIDS, Hussein said.

"The American Soldiers have been in our area one and a half years," said Abubakar. "That short time seems a very long time when we consider what they've done for the community. They have treated our people and animals, drilled three wells in Jijiga and renovated schools and hospitals in other villages." ■



▲ Some 30 members of CJTF-HOA were among the guests who attended the dedication of Karamara Hospital in Jijiga, Ethiopia, following the facility's renovation.

▲ Abdi Jabril Abubakar (center), president of the Somali Regional State, receives a certificate of appreciation from a U.S. military official during the dedication ceremony of Karamara Hospital.



New Hope for Ethiopians



Soldiers on the

Somali

Border

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



▲ A Somali woman sells her wares at an open-air market in Hurso, Ethiopia.

SOLDIERS of the Guam Army National Guard heaved their heavy body armor up over their shoulders, secured the straps on vests and helmets, and checked the clips in their M-16 rifles.

Crates of water aboard, the 50-caliber machine guns up and armed at either aft window and out the aircraft's rear, the Marine Corps CH-53E Super Stallion was ready to take off from Djibouti International Airport for another 500-kilometer flight across endless miles of barren desert and mountainous terrain.

Destination: the Guard Soldiers' Camp Hurso, Ethiopia, some 27 kilometers from the country's capital city, Dire Dawa, on the Somali border.

During the trip, the CH-53E performed some nap-of-the-earth maneuvers and some fast flying through mountain corridors.

"Everything to the east of us is Somalia," said 1LT Joseph Cruz, leader of 2nd Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry. "And even though the Ogaden region — which is where Camp Hurso is located — is officially part of Ethiopia, the Somalis don't recognize it as such.

"Somalia is a rogue country, with no official government — mostly warlords, as in Yemen," Cruz said. This is one of the prime areas for the terrorist group Ogaden Liberation Front, he said.

And members of the largest radical Islamist group in Somalia, al Ittihad al Islamiya, better known as AIAI, the terrorist network that supports al

◀ SGT Ivan Castro of Co. A, 1st Bn., 249th Inf., whose platoon is dedicated to personnel recovery, prepares for a practice mission.

"Somalia is a rogue country, with no official government — mostly warlords, as in Yemen," said 1LT Joseph Cruz.

Qaeda, attempt to cross Africa from here to reach Sudan, where Osama bin Laden was trained, Cruz said.

There's a lot of movement of this terrorist cell, via small, dirt-strip airfields and rugged, SUV-penetrable roads, Cruz said.

Camp Hurso is colocated with the Military Academy of Ethiopia, where Soldiers conduct military-to-military training with Ethiopian soldiers on border-security operations, said Cruz. "We've put three platoons of Ethiopian soldiers through the training since October 2004."

The camp is also a forward-operating base for civil-affairs teams and pro-



Guam National Guard Soldiers assigned to Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa fly aboard a Marine Corps CH-53E helicopter en route to their base camp at Hurso, Ethiopia, on the Somali border.

Soldiers on the Somali Border





vides force protection for U.S. military engineers who visit the region, Cruz said.

“You never really appreciate how good you have it until you see how others live,” said CPT Michael Tougher. “In Ethiopia, it’s basically every man for himself; in some cases, the animals are more important than the people.

“Ethiopian army soldiers have little more than an AK-47 assault rifle, sometimes not even a canteen, no

helmet or body armor, and forget about night-vision goggles,” Tougher added.

“We see a lot of the Russian army model in the way they march and the equipment they use,” Cruz said, “because the Ethiopian army was formerly under Soviet influence.

“Most of their captains and above have been to Russia to train,” Cruz added. “Most officers speak some English and most captains and above speak Russian. In fact, the Military Academy

“Ethiopian army soldiers have little more than an AK-47 assault rifle, sometimes not even a canteen, no helmet or body armor...”

◀ Guam National Guard Soldiers look over the vegetables and other items for sale at the village market in Hurso.

of Ethiopia was built by the Soviets in the 1940s.”

“In October, we started the military-to-military training to help the Ethiopian army address the problems of their porous borders and stop the flow of transnational terrorists,” Tougher said.

“We began with one cycle of trainees. Two days into the training, the Ethiopian army commandant asked us to stop training so he could bring officers from Ethiopia’s five training centers across the country to train,” Tougher said. “That said a lot about how the commandant viewed what we were doing.”

In their training by the Soldiers, the Ethiopians receive instruction in military-police tasks, including how to conduct patrols, operate roadblocks and traffic-control points, and deal with improvised explosive devices. Marksmanship, leadership and battle drills

▶ The main gate at Camp Hurso is flanked by a multi-level watch tower, here manned by a Guam National Guard Soldier.

are also a part of the training regimen.

The soldiers then undergo a three-day field-training exercise, Cruz said. “We give them a scenario, and they have to create a plan and execute it. We actually take them to the local town to conduct real-life checkpoints and search vehicles.”

A highlight of the four-week training is the opportunity for them to fire 550 AK-47 rounds each, Cruz said. “In the Ethiopian army, soldiers fire 10 rounds per year.”

▼ Tower guard SPC Gene Guzman is armed with an M-240 machine gun and equipped with radios that keep him in constant touch with roving patrols.





◀ One display at the museum depicts life in the field during World War II.

▶ The flight jacket of LTC Julia E. Ledbetter, a pioneering aviatrix, is one of many personal items on display.

▼ A WWII-era mail room staffed by female Soldiers, is the subject of another display.



▲ The U.S. Army Women's Museum is located at Fort Lee, Va.

Honoring Army Women

Story and Photos by SFC Antony Joseph

THE only museum in the world dedicated to U.S. Army women sits among trees and shrubs just inside the main gate of Fort Lee, Va.

The 13,000-square-foot museum building houses artifacts and exhibits depicting the history of women in the Army from the Revolutionary War to

Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The current Army Women's Museum traces its heritage to the Women's Army Corps Museum at Fort McClellan, Ala.," said museum director Judy M. Matteson. The first museum began in one room of the WAC Training Center in 1955.

In 1969 The WAC Foundation, a private, non-profit organization, was set up to raise funds to support construction of the WAC Museum. For \$5 anyone could buy a brick, autograph it and return it to be part of the museum.

By 1976 the foundation had raised more than \$400,000 from the sale of

bricks and through other donations. An architect from Anniston, Ala., designed the museum, Matteson said.

With the 1999 closure of Fort McClellan a new home had to be found for the historical objects and displays at the museum. "One of the reasons Fort Lee was chosen as the site for the

new museum was that it was the home of the WAC Training Center and WAC School from 1948 to 1954,” Matteson said.

At a recent reunion many Army women, both current and former Soldiers, reminisced and celebrated their shared legacy.

“This museum preserves our history and showcases the achievements of women in the Army. Young people thank us for the opportunities they are receiving today, because of the brave Soldiers who went before them,” said Yzetta L. Nelson, the first Army woman to be promoted to the rank of command sergeant major. She hopes that more soldiers will find out about the museum and support the foundation with time, artifacts and membership.

The foundation, currently known as the U.S. Army Women’s Museum Foundation, continues to fund and operate the museum from annual donations received from its members. 🇺🇸

For more information on the U.S. Army Women’s Museum, visit: www.awm.lee.army.mil



▲ A display of various uniforms worn by female Soldiers over the years helps illustrate the Army values.

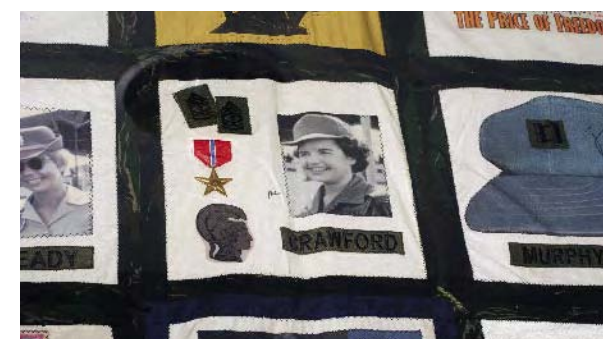
At a recent reunion many Army women, both current and former Soldiers, reminisced and celebrated their shared legacy.



▲ CSM Yzetta L. Nelson (Ret.) stands next to a display of when she became the first female command sergeant major in the Army.



▲ An “In Memory of” display honors female Soldiers who died in operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



▲ One of 1SG Marion C. Crawford's achievements is depicted on the quilt at the Army Women's Museum.



▲ 1SG Marion C. Crawford (Ret.) looks at a quilt illustrating accomplishments of women in the Army. Crawford, who served two tours in Vietnam with the WAC Detachment of U.S. Army, Vietnam, is one of the people depicted on the quilt. She said that her unit had no weapons for self defense in the middle of a combat zone, “only the speed of our feet and the bunkers kept us safe.”

◀ One wall of the museum is dedicated to the women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

“This museum preserves our history and showcases the achievements of women in the Army.”

Building Security in *the Republic of* Georgia

Story and Photos by Andrew Stamer

WITH help from the United States, the Republic of Georgia is developing measures to secure its borders against incoming illegal drugs, shipments of radioactive materials and other contraband. Much of the assistance comes from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Europe District, the U.S. Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (USBCBP), and the U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law-Enforcement Affairs (INL).

The Corps of Engineers manages roughly \$7 million in projects for the USBCBP per year, said USBCBP spokesman Jon Trumble.

The Corps is erecting a series of border crossings and ports for use by USBCBP personnel and the Georgian coast guard, and renovating a nine-story building that will be used as a forensics laboratory and a police academy. It will be funded by INL, in Georgia's capital, Tbilisi.

CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

"Our mandate is to secure the borders of Georgia against all threats, in particular the threat of weapons of mass destruction," Trumble said.

Andrew Stamer works in the Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Europe District.

"Our mandate is to secure the borders of Georgia against all threats, in particular the threat of weapons of mass destruction."

Charles Truesdell (*front*), a quality assurance representative from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Europe District, inspects construction work at the Red Bridge customs crossing station while George Shishkiashvili (*behind Truesdell*), also of USACE's Europe District, interprets for him.



▲ Georgian border guards put vehicles through the first of many checks near the Red Bridge customs crossing station.

The USBCBP has worked with its Georgian counterparts since 1997. The Corps' Europe District first assisted the bureau in 2002, when it renovated a Soviet-era aircraft hangar that houses aircraft used to patrol Georgia's borders.

"We know that this part of the world is vulnerable to the illicit transport of radioactive materials," said Trumble, citing the importance of radiation detectors the Corps installed at border stations and ports.

"In Georgia, where people don't enjoy economic security, potential threats are particularly strong," said Trumble. Since Georgia gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, efforts to strengthen the economy have been an uphill battle. The focus of the customs department in Georgia is revenue collection, to help support the government.

Just a few years ago government corruption ran rampant, Trumble said. Top officials were purportedly skimming money from the nation's assets.

Since the national uprising, called

the "Revolution of Roses" in November 2003, corruption has declined considerably, he said. Georgia's customs and border-protection personnel laid the groundwork to change revenue-collection practices. And the Corps has constructed the buildings that allow them to collect revenues safely.

In the last year, customs revenues have gone up, Trumble said. One reason is that the people who control the borders are more willing to enforce existing laws to collect tariffs and duties.

Completion of the Red Bridge customs crossing station, the entry point into Georgia from Azerbaijan, has also helped. The Corps built the station as a revenue-collection point and monitoring station for incoming and outgoing goods, said Trumble.

Individual lanes for people and cars allow passport-control officers to more closely inspect individuals' documents. And the facility provides customs personnel loading docks and a place from which to examine vehicles from overhead.

"We know that this part of the world is vulnerable to the illicit transport of radioactive materials."

The Corps also has had a direct impact on the quality of life for border guards and customs personnel, Trumble said.

In early 2003 the Corps completed new housing, a dining facility, vehicle-maintenance building, munitions-storage facility, and other projects for the border-guard garrison at Red Bridge.

The Corps also has completed a comfortable work station for customs personnel at Red Bridge, complete with heat, electricity and running water — a great improvement from the austere trailers workers previously used.

Improved facilities and procedures have not only resulted in more

timely delivery of goods, but also have enticed more businesses to import and export goods through Georgia, Trumble said.

BUREAU OF INL

Georgia's corrupt government wasn't limited to those in power at the top. It also trickled down to those who should protect, not extort — the police.

Police had been stopping cars at intersections, with little or no reason, and drivers were expected to pay them off with a few lari, the Georgian currency.

These occurrences stopped in the summer of 2004 when the entire police force was fired in an effort to root out corruption. Now police driving down the streets of Tbilisi are in clearly marked blue and silver cars, not waiting for bribes, but doing their jobs as public servants, Trumble said.

"Georgia's a strategic partner for the United States. It's a coalition member in Iraq and an important ally in international criminal matters," said Meg Riggs, the in-country representative for the INL.

Falling under the State Department and the Justice Department, INL is one of the newest partners for the Corps' Europe District, which is working with INL to renovate two buildings for a police academy and a nine-story forensics laboratory in Tbilisi.

INL is currently working with the police academy to develop basic and advanced training curriculum, Riggs said.

INL's goal is to develop a law-enforcement capability with its partner countries, which include Georgia, Ukraine, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Columbia, Peru and Bolivia, among others, he said.

The Corps will provide INL with a facility to train federal law-enforce-

► The town of Rustavi lies on the main highway that connects the Red Bridge customs station to Georgia's capital city, Tbilisi.



▲ A Georgian contractor welds a beam above a walkway at the new customs crossing station.



► Another construction worker smooths out a portion of concrete prior to the opening of the crossing station, which was the first border crossing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Europe District has helped to complete in the Republic of Georgia.





▲ The new Customs Crossing Station will help facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and commercial traffic crossing to and from neighboring Azerbaijan, whose border crossing is in the background.



▲ A young Georgian man sings traditional folk songs for children at the Dagomi Orphanage in Tbilisi.

ment, traffic police and specialized task forces.

“Right now the building is in disrepair, and there’s no place for people to stay when they come to the region to train,” said Riggs. The Corps will help to renovate the school classrooms and, eventually, the barracks buildings, which can hold 600 people.

The nine-story forensics laboratory that’s being renovated by the Europe District will also be used by various groups.

Meant to support all of Georgia’s law-enforcement agencies, it will allow customs, for example, to test oil quality, to make sure the appropriate tax is levied for a particular-grade oil.

Currently there is no way to determine the grade of oil or the correct tax, which forces customs personnel to rely on the word of the person shipping the goods.

INL also aims to help stop the transit of drugs through Georgia.


“We’re not seeing hard drugs, like heroin, in mass quantities,” said Riggs. Authorities suggest it’s going straight through the country. And law-enforcement agencies currently have limited resources to test and identify drugs. A forensics lab may help prove what drugs are moving through the country, and how.

First, forensics technicians will need training.

Giving this training will facilitate Georgia’s cooperation with U.S. agencies, such as the FBI and DEA, because Georgian agents will be better able to support such investigations. Though INL can’t get involved in such operations, they can provide the training, facilities and technology that will allow the Georgians to conduct these operations themselves.

The Corps’ experience in Georgia has forged a good relationship with this emerging democracy. A joint humanitarian mission between the Navy and the Corps yielded two new orphanages for special-needs children, said Charles Truesdell, quality-assurance representative, Europe District.

But the Europe District is also working on projects for U.S. forces across Europe. Adding to the security of emerging nations adds to U.S. security, Truesdell said. As part of the Army, the Corps is dedicated to bringing what is needed to where it is needed, and providing the necessary tools and expertise for the job.

Meanwhile, in Georgia, the Corps of Engineers continues to make a difference alongside other U.S. agencies, while Georgia’s democracy continues to blossom, said Truesdell. 

Sexual Assault: New Reporting Policy

Story by Beth Reece

VICTIMS of sexual assault may now seek medical care, counseling and support without triggering an investigation.

A new Department of Defense policy for confidential, restricted reporting protects victims not ready or willing to face the criminal investigation process, but who need medical treatment and counseling.

"Although the department would prefer complete reporting of sexual assaults to activate both victim services and accountability actions, we believe our first priority needs to be for victims to be protected, to have them treated with dignity and respect, and to receive the medical treatment, care and counseling that they deserve," said David Chu, the undersecretary of defense for policy and readiness.

To use the new restricted-reporting option, victims should contact the sexual-assault response coordinator at their local Army Community Service offices, their healthcare providers or chaplains. Upon notification of an assault, the SARC will assign a victim advocate to guide the victim through treatment. Victims who pursue official investigations through unrestricted reporting will also be paired with victim advocates.

Advocates provide information on restricted reporting versus unrestricted reporting, thus helping victims make more informed decisions about participating in an investigation.

"The advocate is an outsider, someone outside of the victim's organization, who will sit down and discuss options with the victim.

Although we encourage victims to report as we discuss their options, we do not force them to report. This is something we take very seriously," said COL Paris Mack, chief of Human Factors Division, Human Resources and Policy Directorate.

Leaders hope that allowing confidentiality will give victims confidence that their commands care about their needs and that appropriate agencies will conduct fair investigations.

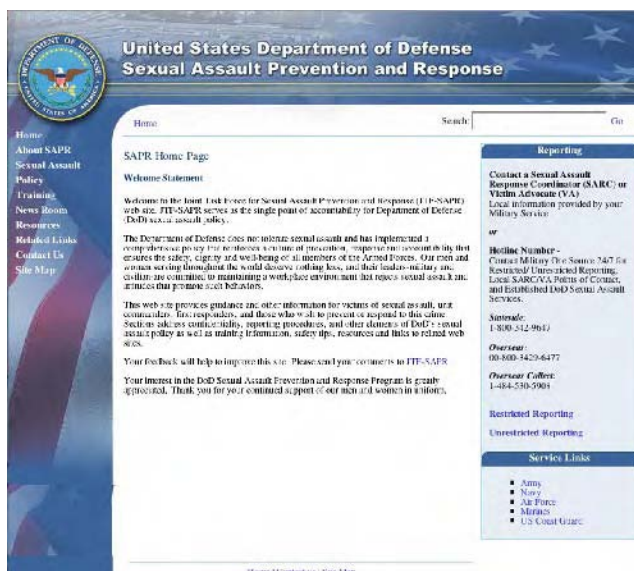
"Victims may ask themselves, 'Is anyone going to believe me because I was intoxicated or because I was at the wrong place at the wrong time?' They may feel ashamed or embarrassed," Mack said. "Hopefully, more people will start to have faith in their commands and want to come forward."

The new policy will help commanders discover how frequently sexual assault occurs in their units, as SARCs must notify them of incidents within their commands. Commanders will not learn details that could identify victims, but will receive enough information to enhance training and prevent threats to the health or safety of others.

The former policy required victims who sought medical help and counseling to also endure an official investigation. While this led to many victims going without treatment, it also left leaders in the dark about how frequently sexual assaults occurred within their ranks.

The policy memorandum was released March 16, but did not become effective until June 16 to allow specialized training for commanders, senior enlisted advisers, investigators, healthcare providers and others involved in responding to sexual assault.

DOD defines sexual assault as "intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender or spousal relationship or age of victim."



To learn more about DOD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, visit <http://www.sapr.mil>



Soldiers assigned to the USDB's staff practice their unarmed self-defense skills.

Story and Photos by Beth Reece

THERE are two kinds of Soldiers at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. — the ones with no rank or pay, and those with keys.

Handcuffs and steel doors keep the inmates confined, but it's the tenacity of corrections specialists that cramps inmates' potential for trouble.

The USDB is the only maximum-security prison within the Department of Defense. Of 440 male inmates, six are currently on death row and 10 are serving life without parole. Female felons are locked away at the Naval Consolidated Brig in San Diego, Calif.

"Unless something unusual happens, this is a very calm environment. But these are bad guys, and in several cases they committed some pretty hideous crimes. That's all we need to know to stay vigilant," said COL James W. Harrison Jr., commandant of the USDB.

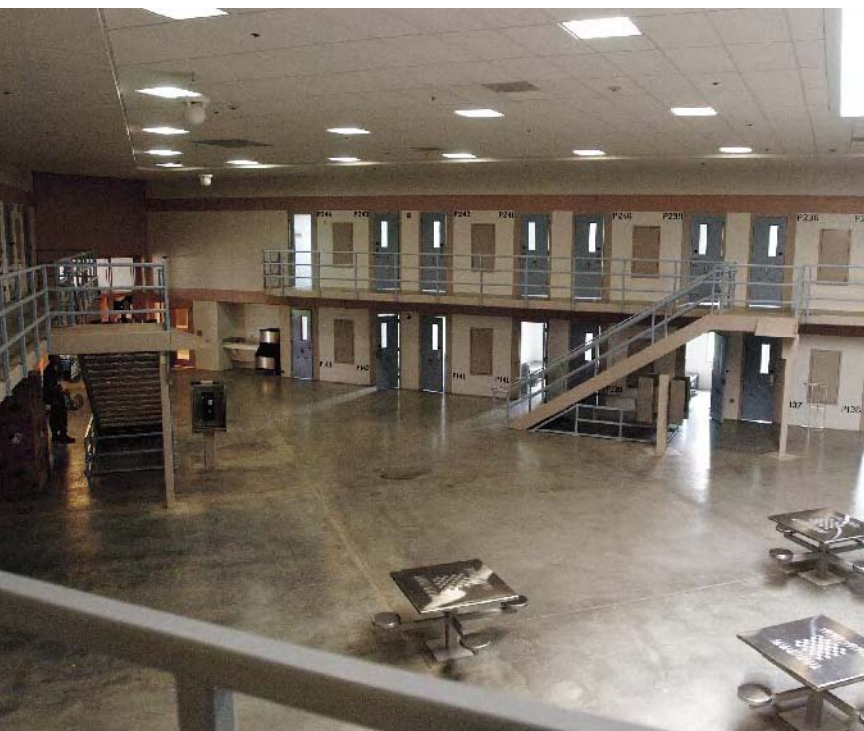


▲ Located at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., the USDB is the only maximum-security prison within the Department of Defense.

Doin' Time in LEAVENWORTH



▲ Though its exterior looks much like a civilian commercial building, the USDB is one of the most secure prisons in the country.



▲ Medium- and minimum-security areas contain large open spaces where inmates may spend free time.



▲ The USDB has a total of 504 cells, each of which look something like this.



▲ Prisoners at the USDB are housed in custody grades according to the level of supervision needed to minimize risk to others.



▲ Inmates living in the special-housing unit may be locked up 23 hours a day and most are served meals through narrow slots in their cell doors.



▲ The average age of inmates at the USDB is 34.8, and the average sentence is 19 years. Sex crimes account for 56 percent of inmates' offenses.

"Every time one of these inmates moves, two or three staff members are with them. The correctional specialists actually have more contact with maximum-security inmates..."

CONFINEMENT

Prisoners' lives are molded by the degree of supervision needed to minimize risk to others. Custody grades include installation trusty, minimum, minimum inside only, medium and maximum.

The special-housing unit is reserved for inmates who could be locked up 23 hours a day. Food is slid into cells through narrow slots, and a small window at the foot of each door lets the guards, known within the USDB as correctional specialists, chain inmates' ankles before they're escorted out for showers or fresh air.

"Every time one of these inmates moves, two or three staff members are with them. The correctional specialists actually have more contact with maximum-security inmates than those who pose fewer risks," said CPT Brian Locke, executive officer for the 705th Military Police Battalion, which staffs the prison.

Small liberties are granted to

inmates who toe the line. They get TV-time and meals served from a food cart in a common area instead of on a tray in their locked cells.

Despite prospects of moving to a lower-custody grade for good behavior, some inmates remain in maximum security for most of their stay.

"Some of them just don't want to follow rules. And frankly, I think some of them are intimidated about going upstairs into the general population, where security remains tight but greater interaction occurs among inmates," Locke said. "There's a real comfort level for some inmates here, because they stay in this small area and don't

have to deal with other people."

The staff's intent is for all inmates to join the general population. Medium- and minimum-security areas contain large open spaces where inmates may spend free time.

Despite strong control measures at the USDB, Harrison said inmates there are probably more relaxed than those held in the Army's short-term, regional correctional facilities.

"RCFs are much more rigid.

Inmates are required to stand at parade rest while they're in line, and they move from one location to another under very tight control," he said. "But this is a long-term environment, so we



▲ Guard commander MSG Edward Baldwin (middle) gives Soldiers tips on predicting inmates' behavior and reading their body language.



Guards perform full searches to be sure inmates are not hiding anything that could serve as a weapon or help them escape.

All Soldiers assigned to the USDB receive additional training before taking charge of security. Among the lessons they learn are techniques for observing prisoner behaviors that may indicate potential problems.

have to make provisions for that.”

Even so, security cameras capture every action in every cell and corner of the prison.

REHAB

Prison isn't forever for most inmates. While counting off the days and years until their release, inmates can participate in as many as 13 treatment programs that focus on self-growth.

“In most cases you're not going to cure somebody who's been convicted of a child-sex crime or certain other crimes. But we can reduce the chances that inmates will go out and do the



▲ All Soldiers assigned to the USDB receive additional training, specific to their area of responsibility, before standing guard.

same things again after their release,” Locke said.

Inmates also have access to traditional education programs and vocational-work details. Apprenticeship programs include carpentry, dental assistance, graphic design, screen printing and welding.

Work details are offered in embroidery, textile repair, graphic arts and woodworking. The state of Kansas also offers licensing in barbering, and some

details allow inmates to pocket 14 to 80 cents an hour.

ON WATCH

Mature, analytical, firm, observant — all required traits for Soldiers standing guard at the USDB.

“You can't be bigheaded. If inmates are out of hand and you get irate with them, you've put yourself in a bad situation,” said PFC Michael

Inmates also have access to traditional education programs and vocational-work details. Apprenticeship programs include carpentry, dental assistance, graphic design, screen printing and welding.

Bruno, who's pulled duty at the prison for a year.

Reason and unarmed self-defense are guards' sole weapons, as guns aren't allowed inside prison walls.

All Soldiers assigned to the USDB receive additional training before taking charge of security. Among the lessons they learn are techniques for observing prisoner behaviors that may indicate potential problems.

“Correctional specialists must know how to de-escalate any situation an inmate could provoke, whether it's directed toward the staff or another inmate,” said MSG Edward Baldwin, guard commander.

Talk in maximum security isn't always direct. To discern inmates' moods, guards usually ask open-ended questions, read body language and sometimes decipher through colorful metaphors blurted by inmates.

“Ask an inmate what his problem is and he's most likely to say you're his problem and being locked up is his problem. But that's not the underlying reason for his behavior,” Baldwin said.

“Someone who is incarcerated is not going to act the same as a person who isn't. There are little nuances we show the correctional specialists to help them identify behavior changes and, ultimately, provide a safe environment for everyone,” he added.

While guards aren't fill-ins for psychiatric experts, they're observant enough to provide details to mental-health specialists who arrive on site to help disturbed inmates.

Compared to civilian prisons,

the USDB could be among the safest places for criminals to carry out their sentences, said Harrison.

“We benefit from the fact that every inmate has had some military discipline before he arrives. With the rare exception, these aren't career criminals,” he said.

JOB GROWTH

Demand for confinement specialists has opened doors for military police assigned to the USDB. By year's end the 705th will convert to three deployable companies. The headquarters company will become deployable later, followed by the creation of a second deployable headquarters company.

“The plan is to be able to deploy one company at a time. The Army has discovered a greater need for military police and internment-settlement specialists,” said MAJ Dawn Hilton, the battalion operations officer.

The companies won't grow in troop strength, just ability. Soldiers will train and stay polished on tasks for two missions — the one they're responsible for at the USDB, and their new mission of handling detainees in the field, Hilton said.

Soldiers currently assigned to the USDB say they're up for the challenge. Duty in the prison is stressful, but turns monotonous after awhile, said SGT Julio Reyna.

“It's hard to keep from getting bored sometimes,” he said. “But everyone here knows we are doing a very important thing and helping inmates return to society as productive citizens.”

Baldwin, who is serving a third tour at the USDB, agrees.

“I love the fact that I can be a role model. If I can help just one inmate return to society with different thought patterns, then I've done the right thing,” he said.

The Leavenworth community is no stranger to prisons. In addition to the USDB, the city hosts a federal maximum-security penitentiary, the Lansing Correctional Facility, and a privately operated prison called the Corrections Corporation of America.

Leavenworth is so familiar with prisons that its tourism bureau borrowed “Doin' Time in Leavenworth” as the city's slogan.

The USDB has operated since 1875. Sexual offenses currently account for more than half of inmates' crimes. The last execution was conducted April 13, 1961. 🚫



▲ Inmates have access to educational programs and vocational-work details, and also have the option of earning a barbering license from the state of Kansas.



▲ Work details are offered in embroidery, textile repair, graphic arts and woodworking.

THE JUNIOR Reserve Officer Training Corps program prepares high-school students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as American citizens.

The course is intended to help cadets succeed in high school and beyond. Cadets participate in extracurricular activities such as color guard, community parades, and drill and rifle team competitions. Georgia's Richmond Hill High School JROTC program just completed its second year. 🇺🇸



▲ JROTC cadets in Georgia construct and cross a rope bridge during a competition.



▲ JROTC instructor CSM Charles Bradley (Ret.) makes a uniform correction during an inspection.



▲ JROTC candidates play volleyball during an organized sports activity at the Richmond Hill High School in Georgia.



▲ MAJ Robert West (Ret.) leads a group of cadets through a physical-training session.



▲ JROTC candidates and their dates enjoy an end-of-year celebration at a military ball.

Photos by: SFC Antony Joseph, Hector Alejandro Sr., Meg Lowry and Ashleigh North.

Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to:
Photo Editor, Soldiers
9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581
Digital images should be directed to:
lisa.gregory@belvoir.army.mil.
All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

Fitness

POCKET-SIZED GYM

SOLDIERS can flex their muscles anytime, anywhere with a strand of elastic resistance tubing in a pocket-sized package dubbed "Army Fitness Deployed."

The kit, which includes the Thera-Band system of progressive resistance, was recently developed at the Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va.

"The adage 'use it or lose it' applies to muscular strength and endurance," said Janet MacKinnon, CFSC fitness-program manager. "Muscular strength relates to the maximum force a muscle can generate in a single contraction, while muscular endurance relates to the ability of a muscle to generate force repeatedly. This kit benefits users at every level of conditioning."

The kit comes with a guide to help Soldiers maintain their muscular fitness while they're in the field. It features illustrations and written instructions on everything from warm-up and stretching to a 33-exercise regimen.

To get your kit, e-mail janet.mackinnon@cfsc.army.mil. — Tim Hipps, ACFSC



No More Damaged Goods

AT DEPRECIATED COSTS

FULL replacement value for lost or damaged items is among several changes to take effect in October as part of a new program called Families First.

Under the current claims process, Soldiers receive a depreciated value for lost or damaged property. A \$200 television, for example, might be valued at \$100 after depreciation.

With Families First, "the carrier will either replace the television with a similar one or reimburse the service member the full cost of a new one," said Cullen Hutchinson of the passenger and personal property office at the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command.

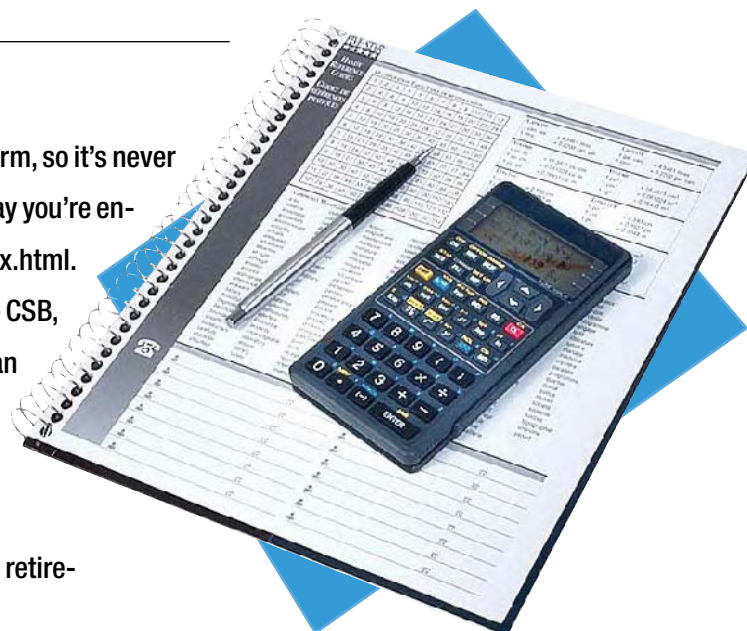
Another benefit of Families First is that service members will deal directly with the carrier to arrange direct delivery of household goods, thus alleviating the need for temporary storage, Cullen added. — Well-Being Liaison Office



HOW MUCH WILL YOU GET?

MOST Soldiers spend more time in retirement than in uniform, so it's never too early to start planning. Find out how much retirement pay you're entitled to at www.dod.mil/militarypay/retirement/calc/index.html.

Calculators are available for four retirement choices — CSB, REDUX, High-3 and final. Each calculator is explained at an entry point prior to opening, and the calculators can be used to generate charts and tables based on users' retirement grade, years of service and age. Users can also personalize the inputs to reflect expectations about retirement and economic conditions.



New

ARMYFCC.COM

THE Army Family Child Care program now offers a Web-based information and referral tool for parents considering home-based care for infants, toddlers and school-age children.

ArmyFCC.com provides children of military members and qualified civilians a home away from home.

Care is provided by military family members or independent contractors in individual housing units on military installations, off-post, government-controlled housing, or off-post civilian housing.

A virtual tour of an FCC home offers parents — who may be reluctant to visit homes in order to make a selection — pictures and information about each home.

"It's making our referral process much more efficient," said Marilyn Judge, FCC director at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



The Central Enrollment Registry staff at each installation assists in the search process and can answer parents' questions about providers' profiles. To make it a fair process for all families, parents must request child care through their installations' CER offices.

Although ArmyFCC.com gives parents an advance start in selecting the best placement for children, the site is

not intended as a substitute for parent-provider interviews.

The FCC program makes life easier for Soldiers with diverse work schedules by offering full-day, part-day and hourly care. FCC's special services include 24-hour and long-term care during mobilization and training exercises, evening and weekend care, and care for special-needs and mildly ill children. — Shadi May

For information and a virtual tour of an FCC home: www.armyfcc.com.

Family

LIFE CONSULTANTS EASE REDEPLOYMENT PROCESS

AN Army initiative that provides informal support for Soldiers returning from deployment helps put families back together again.

The Soldier and Family Life Consultants Initiative offers free, anonymous reunion and reintegration support to active-duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, and their families.

The Army Community and Family Support Center is responsible for administration and coordination of the program. Health Net Federal Services is the contractor.

"The support will be in the form of individual and group training, and consultation and referral services, and will augment existing Army services," said Jay Burcham, chief of deployment readiness for family programs at CFSC.

"The reunion and reintegration period after an extended deployment is a critical time for Soldiers and families. Life consultants will provide the training and skills to make this period easier," Burcham added.

SFLC will offer informal support to assist units, rear-detachment commanders, Soldiers and their families during pre- and post-deployment phases.

Installations already taking part in the program are Camp Shelby, Miss.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Dix, N.J.; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Buchanan, P.R.; Fort McCoy, Wis.; Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Riley, Kan.; Korea; and National Guard and Army Reserve units in Hawaii, Arkansas and Idaho.

— Jack Gillund



Aviator **Calls It a Day**

WHEN **CW5 Sargeant B. Means** stepped out of his Cessna at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., resplendent in his Class B uniform, waiting friends and comrades doused him with water from a fire hose. Soaked to the skin, Means looked up and smiled.

"This is how we greet aviators returning from their last flights," said CW5 Mark Marinelli, the maintenance officer at the U.S. Army Priority Air Transportation unit at Andrews AFB.

After 39 years in the Army, Means was calling it a day. He joined the Army as a commissioned officer in 1966 and did his first tour of duty as an infantry officer with the 82nd Airborne Division. After graduating from flight school in 1968 he spent a year and a half in Vietnam, where he was a forward air controller, drawing enemy fire to mark positions for the artillery and bombers to clear. In 1980

Means switched to the warrant-officer corps.

He has logged equal time in both rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft, but enjoys flying helicopters more.

"You can get real close to the action in a helicopter, and I never got tired of flying over the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Washington, D.C., and seeing the traffic action below," he said. His last tour of duty was with USAPAT.

Means said that his Vietnam days were the most memorable of his career.

"What stands out about the Vietnam experience is the camaraderie and bonding of the people I served with," he said. "To this day we still keep in touch."

In the past 40 years he has seen many changes. One that pleases him most is the broader public acceptance of the military.

"It is wonderful to see the support we get from the people of our country. Though many people oppose war, they still support the troops," he said.

Means' family has played an integral part in what he calls "a satisfying career." Married to Stephanie, whom he met in Hawaii, he has two children, Carrie and Todd, and three grandsons.

Stephanie said her husband's sense of humor has been an essential element in the success of their marriage. As far as the stresses of a long military life are concerned, she said, "Every time things seem to be getting too hard to handle, a new assignment would come up and it would all be fresh again."

Means' daughter, Carrie, said, "As a child, saying goodbyes every three years was hard, but, on the other hand, you meet new people and make more friends." She said she wouldn't have met her husband, Warren Wood, if it had not been for the Army and the constant moves. She said that she can really appreciate her father's achievements.

Means believes that the "Army is people — friendships for a lifetime, and places — you can see the world if you want to."

His message to Soldiers as he leaves the job he loves, at the age of 62, is "Be proud of what you are doing. We complain sometimes and, yes, the Army has its faults, but it is a wonderful profession overall." 🇺🇸



Means believes that the "Army is people — friendships for a lifetime, and places — you can see the world if you want to."



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